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Nan Xie

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HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER/ORACLE

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PATEL, CHIRAG R

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/648,951	Applicant(s) XIE ET AL.	
	Examiner CHIRAG R. PATEL	Art Unit 2441	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 September 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5-10,13-28,30-44 and 46-50 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5-10,13-28,30-44 and 46-50 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-2, 4-10, and 12-50 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Examiner notes that claims 3-4, 11-12, 29, and 45 are cancelled by the applicants.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-2, 5-10, 13-28, and 30-44, and 46-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ehrlich et al. – hereinafter Ehrlich (US 2002/0156685).

As per claims 1 and 49, Ehrlich discloses a method for handling requests for web services, the method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

receiving at a web services broker, from a particular instance of a client application, ([0078]) a request for information, wherein said request includes an identification of from a particular web service from which said particular instance wants said requested ([0079])

information, the request having first data, the first input data being in a form that cannot be used by said particular web service to service requests for said information; ([0079]

wherein the particular web service serves as the source of said requested information, and is separate from the web services broker, ([0068]; Figure 2: items 180, 185)

wherein the particular instance of said client application is separate from the web services broker and does not have logic for directly interacting with said particular web service;([0079], Figure 2: items 100, 105)

in response to receiving said request, the web services broker accessing, based on said identification of said particular web service, ([0080])

transformation information that specifies how to transform said first input data associated with said request to second data that said particular web service can use to service requests for said requested information, and ([0080]; Figure 3B: item 390)

how to invoke said particular web service in a manner required by said particular web service, to obtain said requested information from said particular web service; ([0080]; Figure 3B: item 390)

transforming said first input data to said second data; ([0079]) and invoking, in said manner required by said particular web service, said particular web service to obtain said requested information from said particular web service. ([0088]-[0089]; Figure 3B: item 395)

As per claim 2, Ehrlich discloses the method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

receiving, from said particular web service, said requested information; and transforming, based on said transformation information, said requested information to data that said client application can use. ([0079])

As per claims 5 and 30, Ehrlich discloses the method of Claim 1, wherein said transformation information includes a mapping of first input data from a first particular client application to second input data that a first web service can use, and a mapping of first input data from a second particular client application to said second input data that said first web service can use, and wherein said first input data from said first particular client application has a different form than said first input data from said second particular client application. ([0079]-[0080]; Figure 3B: item 390)

As per claims 6 and 31, Ehrlich discloses the method of Claim 1, wherein said transformation information includes a mapping of first input data from a first client application to second input data that a first web service can use and to second input data that a second web service can use, and wherein said first web service is different than said second web service. ([0079]-[0080]; Figure 3B: item 390)

As per claim 7, Ehrlich discloses the method of Claim 1, further comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

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based on said transformation information, determining whether to use RPC style of communication or messaging style of communication to invoke said particular web service. ([0080]; The protocol broker 105 then chooses for each purchase request, the most appropriate protocol and communication mode)

As per claim 8, Ehrlich discloses the method of Claim 1, further comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

based on said transformation information, determining whether to use SOAP encoding to encode a communication for invoking said particular web service. ([0080])

As per claims 9-10, 13-16, 33-44, and 46-48, Ehrlich discloses a computer-readable storage medium storing one or more sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 1. ([0065])

As per claims 17 and 50, Ehrlich discloses a method for handling requests for web services, the method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

receiving at a web services broker, from a particular instance of a client application, ([0078]) a request for information, wherein said request includes an identification of a particular instance of said client application, the request having first input data, ([0079])

the first input data being in a form that cannot be used by a particular web service to service requests for said information; ([0079])

wherein the particular web service serves as the source of said requested information and is separate from the web services broker; ([0068], Figure 2: items 180; 185)

wherein the client application is separate from the web services broker and does not have logic for directly interacting with said particular web service; ([0068], Figure 2: item 100)

in response to receiving said request, based on said identification of said particular instance of said client application, the web services broker accessing transformation information; ([0080])

wherein said transformation information includes a mapping between said identification of said particular instance of said client application and an identification of said particular web service, the mapping indicating that said particular instance prefers said particular web service to service requests from said particular instance for said requested information ([0080]; the protocol broker 105 parses and analyzes the purchase request to retrieve the corresponding merchant protocol data from the merchant schema database 120; Figure 3: item 390)

wherein said transformation information specifies how to transform said first input data associated with said request to second input data that said particular web service

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can use to service requests for said requested information; and ([0080]; Figure 3: item 390)

based on said transformation information, the web services broker transforming said first input data to said second input data. ([0079])

As per claim 18, Ehrlich discloses the method of Claim 17, wherein said identification of a particular instance of said client application includes identification of a user of said client application. ([0078])

As per claim 19, Ehrlich discloses the method of Claim 17, further comprising the computer- implemented step of:

passing said second input data as input to said particular web service to service said request. ([0079])

As per claim 20, Ehrlich discloses the method of Claim 19, wherein said transformation information specifies a mapping between said first input data output from said client application and data that said particular web service can use as input to determine said requested information; and ([0080])

wherein said step of passing includes passing said second data, according to said transformation information, as input to said particular web service to determine said requested information. ([0088]-[0089])

As per claim 21, Ehrlich discloses the method of Claim 20, wherein said transformation information specifies a first manner in which said particular web service can be invoked to service requests for said requested information; ([0080]) and wherein said step of passing includes passing said second input data in said first manner, to invoke said particular web service to determine said requested information. ([0088]-[0089])

As per claim 22, Ehrlich discloses the method of claim 21, wherein said transformation information specifies a second manner in which said second input data is characterized so that said particular web service can be invoked to service requests for said requested information; and ([0079])

wherein said step of passing includes passing, according to said first manner, said second input data that is characterized according to said second manner, to invoke said particular web service to determine said requested information. ([0088]-[0089])

As per claim 23, Ehrlich discloses the method of claim 21, wherein the method of claim 22, wherein said second manner includes characterizing said second input data according to Simple Object Access Protocol. ([0079])

As per claim 24, Ehrlich discloses the method of Claim 19, wherein said transformation information specifies a first manner in which said particular web service can be invoked to service requests for said requested information and a second manner

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in which said second input data is characterized in an invocation of said particular web service; and([0080])

wherein said step of passing includes passing, according to said first manner, said second input data that is characterized according to said second manner, to invoke said particular web service to determine said requested information. ([0088]-[0089])

As per claim 25, Ehrlich discloses the method of Claim 17, wherein said particular web service has characteristics that are described in Web Service Description Language. ([0080])

As per claim 26, Ehrlich discloses the method of Claim 25, wherein said particular web service has characteristics that are published in a Universal Description, Discovery, and Integration registry. ([0080])

As per claim 27, Ehrlich discloses the method of Claim 17, further comprising the steps of: receiving, from said particular web service, said requested information; and transforming, based on said transformation information, said requested information to data that said client application can use. ([0079])

As per claim 28, Ehrlich discloses the method of Claim 17, wherein said transformation information specifies how to transform a plurality of first input data each from a respective client application of a plurality of client applications, to a plurality of second input data each for a respective web service of a plurality of web services. ([0080])

As per claim 32, Ehrlich discloses the method of claim 31, wherein said first web service and said second web service can determine the same requested information, and wherein said second input data that said first web service can use is different from said second data that said second web service can use. ([0079])

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chirag R Patel whose telephone number is (571)272-

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7966. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:00AM to 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Larry Donaghue, can be reached on (571)272-3962. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pairedirect.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free).

/C. R. P./
Examiner, Art Unit 2441

/Larry D Donaghue/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2454